

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SECRETARY BERGLAND'S VISIT

1. PLAN ISSUE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE HERE APRIL 20.
2. SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BOB BERGLAND ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT HE WILL BE IN THE SOVIET UNION MAY 7-16 FOR MAJOR DISCUSSIONS OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT COUNTRY AND THE UNITED STATES. HE, ALONG WITH OTHER U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) OFFICIALS, WILL ALSO VISIT FIVE OTHER COUNTRIES DURING THE 3-WEEK TRIP MAY 6-26. THEY ARE NORWAY, POLAND, HUNGARY, ROMANIA, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

3. IN THE USSR, SECRETARY BERGLAND, ACCOMPANIED BY

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE DALE E. HATHAWAY AND ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS R. HUGHES OF THE FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE (FAS), WILL MEET WITH THE MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE, FOREIGN TRADE, AND PROCUREMENT IN MOSCOW. HE WILL TALK WITH AGRICULTURAL OFFICIALS AND VISIT FARMS IN THE AREAS OF KIEV, TSELINOGRAD, AND LENINGRAD. IN ADDITION, WHILE IN MOSCOW, SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WILL TAKE PART MAY 15 IN THE FIFTH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS UNDER THE U.S.-USSR LONG TERM GRAIN SUPPLY AGREEMENT.

4. THAT AGREEMENT, SIGNED OCT. 20, 1975, IN WASHINGTON, REQUIRES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AT LEAST TWICE A YEAR. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HATHAWAY WILL HEAD THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE MAY 15 CONSULTATIONS. THE SOVIET DELEGATION WILL BE LED BY BORIS GORDEYEV, USSR DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE.

5. IN OSLO, SECRETARY BERGLAND WILL TAKE PART IN NORWEGIAN CONSTITUTION DAY CEREMONIES ON MAY 17. THIS COMMEMORATES THE ADOPTION OF NORWAY'S CONSTITUTION ON THAT DATE IN 1814 AND IS THE OCCASION FOR A MAJOR PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION BY THE NORWEGIANS.

6. IN WARSAW, BUDAPEST, AND BUCHAREST, THE SECRETARY WILL MEET WITH TOP AGRICULTURE AND TRADE OFFICIALS WITH RESPECT TO AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION AND THE GROWING U.S. TRADE

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WITH THOSE COUNTRIES. U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO THOSE COUNTRIES REPRESENT AROUND A HALF BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR, WITH FUTURE GROWTH CONSIDERED BRIGHT, ESPECIALLY IN U.S. FEEDSTUFFS.

7. IN LONDON, THE SECRETARY WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FORMAL OPENING OF A U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE OFFICE TO HOUSE IN ONE BUILDING THE COOPERATOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT WORK WITH FAS IN DEVELOPING FOREIGN MARKETS. THIS OFFICE, FIRST OF ITS KIND, WILL PRESENT AN INTEGRATED QUOTE ONE-STOP UNQUOTE APPROACH TO EUROPEAN IMPORTERS AND GIVE U.S. AGRICULTURE HIGH VISIBILITY IN A LOCATION NEAR THE U.S. EMBASSY IN THE HEART OF LONDON.

8. COOPERATORS JOINING IN THE NEW TRADE OFFICE ARE THE POULTRY AND EGG INSTITUTE OF AMERICA, THE U.S. FEED GRAINS COUNCIL, AND THE U.S. MEAT EXPORT FEDERATION. THEIR LONDON STAFFS WORK NOT ONLY WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM MARKET BUT ALSO IN PARTS OF CONTINENTAL EUROPE.

9. PLANS ARE FOR ADDITIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE OFFICES IN OTHER MAJOR MARKET CENTERS, TO BRING TOGETHER U.S.

EXPORT EFFORTS HERETOFORE DECENTRALIZED WITHIN CITIES
AND COUNTRIES.

10. SECRETARY BERGLAND'S ITINERARY:

11. MAY 6 DEPART WASHINGTON
MAY 7-16 SOVIET UNION
MAY 16-18 NORWAY
MAY 18-20 POLAND
MAY 20-23 HUNGARY
MAY 23-25 ROMANIA
MAY 25-26 UNITED KINGDOM
MAY 26 ARRIVE WASHINGTON CHRISTOPHER

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